

**MITCHELL J. LANDRIEU
MAYOR**

**EXECUTIVE ORDER
MJL 17-06**

WHEREAS, the scientific community has determined that climate change is causing the global average temperature to increase to levels that may destabilize the climate and make the earth unsustainable for human life; and

WHEREAS, this warming is caused by the accumulation of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere primarily attributed to human activity, specifically the burning of fossil fuels that emit carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases; and

WHEREAS, New Orleans is exceptionally vulnerable to effects of climate change such as sea level rise, prolonged heat events, and increasingly erratic and dangerous storms that may threaten human health and property, interrupt food and water supplies, and jeopardize global safety and stability; and

WHEREAS, the United States joined 194 other nations to adopt the Paris Agreement on December 12, 2015 committing to keep the global average temperature increase to less than two degrees Celsius above the pre-industrial global average temperature; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. pledged to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions 26% from 2005 levels by 2025; and

WHEREAS, the City of New Orleans joined the Global Covenant of Mayors on Energy & Climate December 2015 and thereby committed to taking an inventory of its greenhouse gas emissions, setting a target goal for reducing its emissions, and developing strategies to achieve that target and to adapt to climate change; and

WHEREAS, reducing greenhouse gas emissions will help protect New Orleans' residents and future generations from the most damaging effects of climate change, mitigate the consequences of extreme weather events that disrupt lives and damage businesses and property, and demonstrate the city's commitment to resilience; and

WHEREAS, the decision to depart from the Paris Agreement by the President of the United States announced on June 1, 2017 and previous related choices to reverse course on federal air quality and energy policies intended to support the U.S. commitment to reduce

greenhouse gas emissions have made it more necessary than ever for cities to coordinate and lead on climate action; and

WHEREAS, failure by the U.S. to act against climate change puts millions at risk and risks future jobs in the clean energy economy; and

WHEREAS, all humans have a moral, economic, public health, and security imperative to act to protect our communities and future generations and we must act together; and

WHEREAS, on June 15, the New Orleans City Council adopted a resolution committing to the goals of the Paris Agreement; and

WHEREAS, many of the actions cities can take against climate change also address other major urban challenges and issues of inequality such as air pollution, accessibility of public transit, aging infrastructure, economic development and diversification, security, and public health; and provide additional benefits such as walkable neighborhoods, improved energy and transportation infrastructure, increased tree canopy, cleaner air, new businesses and less waste.

NOW THEREFORE, I, MITCHELL J. LANDRIEU, by the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of New Orleans, by the Constitution and laws of the State of Louisiana and the Home Rule Charter and laws of the City of New Orleans, **HEREBY ORDER AS FOLLOWS:**

Effective Date: This Executive Order is effective upon signature of the Mayor.

Purpose: This Executive Order adopts *Climate Action for a Resilient New Orleans* as guiding policy to achieve the City's commitment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 50% by 2030, and commits to the principles and goals of the Paris Agreement and to continued collaboration worldwide to curb our contribution to climate change and prepare for its effects.

- A. The City of New Orleans sets a goal to reduce its communitywide greenhouse gas emissions by 50% by 2030;
- B. The City adopts *Climate Action for a Resilient New Orleans* as guiding policy to achieve its commitment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 50% by 2030. Working in partnership across City government and with community leaders, the City and its partners commit to the goals outlined in the climate action strategy and to enacting the strategy to the best of their ability;
- C. The City of New Orleans adopts the principles and goals of the Paris Agreement, and with this climate action strategy will support the agreement's critical goal of holding the

increase in the global average temperature to well below 2° Celsius above pre-industrial levels;

- D. The City of New Orleans commits to continuing its work with other leading cities, and with partners, businesses, scientists and public health leaders across our community, the region and the world to slow and prepare for climate change.

Chief Administrative Office Policy Memorandum: In support of the City's climate action goals, the Chief Administrative Office shall issue a Policy Memorandum outlining the City's commitment to climate action in its own operations including building capacity in City staff, reducing energy use, improving fuel efficiency, implementing recycling and sustainable procurement policies and exploring use of renewable energy for City property.

WITNESS MY HAND AND SEAL THIS 7th DAY OF JULY, 2017 AT NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA.

Mitchell J. Landrieu, Mayor

City of New Orleans